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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 27 | Min 29 | Humidity 72% Scattered Thunderstorms Sensex 67,838 | Nifty 20,192 | Gold 58,999 | Silver 72,165 | Dollar 83.09 | Euro 88.69 | GBP 102.92

There is literally no abandoned or waste material that hasn't been dumped under the Wheeler Road flyover. And we are talking about a space that had been completely transformed by NGO just years ago

THE DARK UNDERBELLY

Space was cleared once, but people dump stuff in the night, says BBMP official

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Should we call this an innovative way to use up space to store unwanted things, or just plainly call it what it is, an eyesore? As the authorities try to look for ways to beautify spaces under flyovers, take a look at the space under the Wheeler Road flyover. Heaps of mess cover the entire stretch.

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has come up with various campaigns like adopt-a-flyover and so on in the past, this one stretch of close to 500 metres below the flyover is in a utter state of neglect. Residents of Cox Town have been raising the issue for the past two years now with the BBMP officials, but nothing has been done so far to clean the space.

According to the residents of the area, just before covid hit, a German NGO Jaaga had painted and beautified the area under the flyover. The NGO had even transformed the space into a park-like area and had even made seating arrangements for the public. However, now the area has turned into a space to dump

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

"The state of the flyover raises a safety concern for residents of girls' hostel nearby as some people bring alcohol to drink in the space under the flyover

—Cox Town resident

Headless bodies cry out for leader of opposition

Oppn leader is a must to choose candidates to fill important vacancies, including that of KSHRC chief

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The delay in electing a Leader of Opposition might be useful to create a slug fest among political parties, but it has a cascading effect on hapless citizens, especially those running from pillar to post seeking justice. The law requires a leader of opposition to be the member of the selection committee that chooses candidates to fill up vacancies of Lokayukta, Upalokayukta, chairman of Karnataka State Human Rights Commission (KSHRC) and the chief of State Information Commission.

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), after a setback in the last Assembly elections lost power and became the main opposition party in the State Assembly. However, the party has failed either to select or elect one of its MLAs as its leader in the State Assembly thus resulting in delay in selecting candidates to fill up vacancies at the Karnataka Lokayukta, the KSHRC, and the State Information Commission.

The post of KSHRC has been vacant since March 2023 and two of its members' posts are also vacant since February 2023. The staff members at the KSHRC are merely receiving the complaints from the public as they can neither issue orders on the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Explore variety

Don't miss the Bengaluru Arts and Crafts Exhibition, which showcases a magnificent collection of handmade treasures. This event offers a plethora of shopping options, especially for the upcoming Gauri Ganesha festival. From clothing to decorative items, there is a wide variety available, including handcrafted boutique prints, intricate cut work, and jewellery designs. Actress Sindhu Loknath inaugurated the event. **Where: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath**
When: until September 24

02 Artistic beauty

Get the chance to attend an art exhibition that features over 50 captivating works by Shan Re and Romican Revola. Gallery G is hosting Floral Symphony: A Celebration of Nature's Canvas, which pays homage to the beauty of nature and promotes environmental sustainability. **Where: Gallery G, Lavelle Road**
When: September 15 to 30; 10 am to 7 pm

03 Exclusive collection

Get ready to attend the Hi Life Exhibition, which aims to bring gorgeous designer wear, wedding ensembles for brides-to-be, ethnic designs, everyday apparel, jewellery, and more. This exclusive show will also present various kinds of foot wear, carpet, precious stones, furniture, potteries, murals, and other pieces of work from artists. **Where: The Lalit Ashok**
When: until tomorrow; 10 am to 8 pm

Protect your little ones from new bug in town

City witnesses rise in adenovirus cases in children; experts say transmission is observed among babies and young children, especially in daycare facilities

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Adenovirus cases in children have been on the rise in the past couple of months in the city, and while symptoms are not very severe, doctors have warned parents to take preventive measures.

"We have witnessed a rise in adenovirus infections over the past month. More than 20% of outpatient department (OPD) cases are being diagnosed with either adenovirus or respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). There has also been an increase in the number of hospital visits because the illness can persist for up to two weeks at times," said Dr Sandeep R, paediatrician, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Marathahalli.

The hospital carried out 475 tests over the past month, and 350 children tested positive for adenovirus, or RSV. According to doctors at Rainbow, every third admission is a case of a viral infection like adenovirus or RSV.

Additionally, the number of infants less than one month of age admitted to the ICU due to the virus has increased since August. "The trend started last year in August and continued until February of this year. There was a break during the summer, and once again, we saw a sharp rise in cases after the rains," said Dr Sandeep.

Apollo Clinic in HSR Layout has also reported a surge in the number of cases.

"We have witnessed more than 20–25 Bengaluru citizens visit our clinics in the past few weeks for adenovirus-related symptoms. While no such cases were being reported earlier, now we have 3-5 patients visiting us every day," said Dr Shivangi Bora, paediatrician, Apollo Clinic HSR, Layout, Bengaluru.

Common symptoms include fever, cold, cough, red eyes, and diarrhea. Most of the cases of adenovirus are being reported among children in the age group of 3–12 years. The common symptoms of the virus include fever, runny nose, sore throat, and cough, as it affects the respiratory system. Such cases were last observed in March this year. As we reach the post-monsoon season, it is common to see flu-like symptoms and adenovirus spread among children and youngsters.

> **"The trend started last year in August and continued until February. There was a break during summer, and now there's rise**–Dr Sandeep R

Healthcare experts say that an adenovirus infection spreads through respiratory droplets. Transmission is frequently observed among babies and young children, especially in daycare facilities and among school-going children. In these settings, the virus easily spreads, primarily because children often interact closely with each other, sharing toys and common spaces. Moreover, young children tend to explore their surroundings by putting objects in their mouths, thereby increasing the chances of virus transmission through contaminated items. Moreover, their hand hygiene practices may be less consistent, further contributing to the spread of adenoviruses in daycare settings.

Healthcare experts say that an adenovirus infection spreads through respiratory droplets

Doctors say prevention can be done by following respiratory etiquette, such as covering the nose and mouth during sneezing and coughing, which needs to be taught as a routine practice to children.

"The patients presented predominantly with prolonged high-grade fever. Since the infection transmits through aerosols and close contact with the infected person and there is no vaccination available, prevention is the best option. Prevention of adenovirus is like any other respiratory illness," said Dr Sindhu MV pediatrician, Aster RV Hospital.

Here's to free ambulance service for strays

Fed up with the lack of adequate rescue vehicles and facilities for stray dogs and animals in Bengaluru, a citizen, through crowdfunding, has launched a free ambulance service to aid in the rescue of stray animals. The free ambulance, bought with a total investment of Rs 4 lakh, is available for animal rescuers and welfare workers. According to Chitra AmzarewaleSapre, a resident of Whitefield and an animal rescuer, the idea behind raising the sum and purchasing an ambulance was to ensure a free-of-cost service for the timely treatment of street animals.

"Whenever we rescue animals, we end up seeking help from rescue centres, especially to transport the animal to the nearest veterinarian. However, this is the most difficult aspect of animal rescue, as the rescue centres have limited transport facilities. Thus, most of us hire paid rescuers, and they charge us anything between Rs 2,000 and Rs 4,000 just to drop the injured animal at the hospital. On average, we end up spending Rs 10,000 every month just on transportation. Moreover, in cases of road accidents, delays in getting transport also led to the deaths of these animals. I decided to get an ambulance to solve these issues," said AmzarewaleSapre.

The service can be availed through Praana Foundation's helpline number

"I raised the fund through personal contacts and contacts provided by other animal rescuers and activists in the city. Some of the donors are my friends and relatives too. We received donations ranging between Rs 1,000 and Rs 50,000 for this initiative and went for a second-hand vehicle with some modifications, for which we had to seek permission from our regional RTO office. However, running a free-of-cost ambulance service is a time-intensive process, and thus I reached out to the Praana Foundation to evaluate the vehicle, finalise it, and run the service," added AmzarewaleSapre.

The service is currently available for animal rescuers in the Whitefield, Bellandur, Yemlur, and Sarjapur. "Currently, the ambulance is available in these areas, as the maximum number of rescues happen in these places. However, if the ambulance is free, it can also go to other areas," said AmzarewaleSapre. The service can be availed through Praana Foundation's 24*7 helpline number.

Speeding school bus peril on city's roads

Pressure to reach on time or not, school bus drivers cannot take risks such as speeding and driving on wrong side as kids safety is involved, citizens feel

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Citizens have raised alarm over drivers of school buses being reckless on the road and speeding. They pointed to the potential danger of trusting the safety of children in the hands of such drivers.

The issue was once again in the spotlight after a video of a school bus driver traversing on the wrong side of the Bengaluru-Mysure Expressway went viral on Thursday. Police have arrested the driver after the video was seen and ADGP Alok Kumar ordered the police to take immediate action against him. It is known that the Kumbalgodu police conducted a search and finally arrested the school bus driver and took the bus into custody.

According to the sources, there were 12 children on that bus. The incident occurred two months ago, and was recorded on the camera installed in a car that was going ahead of the bus.

In another incident, on September 14, a school bus driver was seen blocking 75 vehicles, disobeying a traffic constable and driving on the wrong way. Later, Whitefield traffic police filed an FIR in this case and seized the vehicle.

The update was posted on X, by Whitefield Citizens Ward Committee, and many netizens came forward to share that school bus drivers are endangering people's life on road.

A citizen, Satheesh said that several school buses drive at ridiculous speeds in a dangerous manner on CDP Road between Varthur-Gunjur towards Gunjur palya.

Citizens are especially worried when school bus drivers break rules as it can prove dangerous to many lives

Another citizen said one-way roads are particularly crucial. "There needs to be monitoring of all one-way roads between Sampige and Margosa Road in Malleswaram. The best example is 11th Cross where vehicles and even school buses ply on the wrong without any fear," they said.

Sandeep Anirudhan, Convenor - Bengaluru Mobility, told BM that a suggestion could be to give school bus drivers a special orientation on lawful driving.

"Considering that they are in charge of the safety of the school children that they are driving around, it is doubly irresponsible to be violating traffic rules. It also puts the children's lives at risk. Further, they are setting a bad example for those children to follow. So, school bus drivers should be imparted proper training to follow discipline and all traffic rules," he told BM.

> **"Private schools often pressure drivers to drop off students 10 minutes earlier than when the schools are to start session**
>
> –Kiran Gowda, citizen

Some citizens were of the view that it is not entirely the driver's fault that they are speeding in some cases.

"Private schools often pressure drivers to drop off students 10 minutes earlier than when the schools are to start session, and principals sometimes threaten to send students back home if they are late. This pressure can lead drivers to take dangerous risks, such as speeding and driving on the wrong way down a street," opined Kiran Gowda.

According to the Bengaluru traffic police data, 50,646 cases have been registered against buses in 2023 for traffic violations.

IN BRIEF

Fake currency case: Woman sentenced to 6 years' jail

National Investigation Agency's special court has sentenced a woman to six years of imprisonment in connection with the Bengaluru fake currency case involving smuggling of huge quantities of high quality Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) from Bangladesh into India via Karnataka, the agency said on Saturday.

The woman accused, identified as Vanitha alias Thangam, was convicted by the NIA Special Court in Bengaluru on Friday.

She has been sentenced to six years of imprisonment under section 489B of Indian Penal Code (IPC), five years' imprisonment under section 489C of IPC, and two years' jail under section 120B of IPC, besides a total fine of Rs 20,000, said the NIA.

"The sentences will run concurrently," the NIA added.

Karnataka Police had seized high quality FICNs of face value Rs 2,50,000 from Vanitha in the case, in which a joint operation by the state police and NIA had originally led to the seizure of fake notes of face value of Rs 4,34,000 from the possession of three accused persons.

The case was initially registered by Karnataka Police under various sections of IPC based on the complaint of an NIA officer. The NIA had subsequently re-registered the case and mounted a thorough investigation and surveillance, which led to the exposure of the FICN racket headed by the prime accused, Abdul Khadir. Further investigations by NIA had indicated a potential transaction of fake notes by three persons in Bengaluru.

Between 2016 and 2022, the NIA filed chargesheets against a total of eight persons, of whom three accused, identified as Mohammed Sajjad Ali alias Chachu, M G Raju alias Master and Abdul Kadir were convicted by the special court. **ANI**

Authorities swoop down on, slap fines on PoP idol sellers

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Some residents of Pottery Town who put up temporary shops to sell Ganesha idols were in for a shock on Saturday afternoon. They were hoping to earn money by selling the idols, but ended up having to pay a penalty for also stocking those made of Plaster of Paris (PoP).

BBMP marshals imposed fines on sellers who had Plaster of Paris idols at their stalls in Pottery Town

A team of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), marshals and police swooped down on the temporary stalls to seize idols made of PoP. Some shop owners were seen covering Ganesha idols with plastic and tarpaulin sheets to divert the officials' attention.

"We have directed the people who put up stalls to sell Ganesha idols not to sell those made of PoP. We have seized 16 PoP idols and penalised eight people Rs 1,000 each for keeping such idols for sale," BBMP Health Inspector Venkatesh.

Two to three people were seen advising idol sellers to block the road in protest against the penalty imposed on them. However, a police inspector told BM the situation is under control. "A few people, out of shock or anger, may incite others but the situation is under control and there is no need to use force or seek deployment of more policemen," said the police inspector.

A woman BM saw was in a dilemma on how to pay the penalty imposed by the marshals. "We have already incurred a huge loss by investing in making the PoP idols. The officials should have instructed us not to put them for sale here. We paid money to buy the idols and also for transport from the warehouse to here. Sales of these idols have been bad too," said the woman pleading anonymity.

Another person, who had put up a temporary shop, said the BBMP was being selective in penalising people. "There are many temporary shops at Mavalli where a number of PoP Ganesha idols are put up for sale. Will the BBMP authorities penalise them?" he asked.

Bangalore Mirror had reported on September 12 about the KSPCB sealing a manufacturing unit on the outskirts of the city.

> **Pottery Town sellers shocked by steep fines as they had spent a lot on the idols and sales have been poor**

Many environmentalists expressed concern over the lack of commitment to implement the ban on PoP idols. KSPCB Member Secretary Prabhas Chandra Ray told BM officials are not acting tough because of social, religious and economic reasons. "It is tough to stop sale of PoP idols after they enter the market. We have discussed with the Environment Minister about the measures to be taken to implement the ban on PoP idols effectively. We have decided to stop manufacturing of PoP idols by keeping a strict vigil on manufacturing units," said Ray.

Kasavanahalli road saga: Widening project delays

Road expansion project faces setbacks, leaving residents frustrated, traffic woes unresolved

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BBMP undertook a Rs 9 crore widening project under the Comprehensive Development of Kasavanahalli Main Road from Sarjapura Main Road to Choodasandra

The widening of Kasavanahalli main road to 18 meters, proposed two years ago, is facing significant delays and discrepancies in progress. Despite residents' claims of minimal advancements in the project, a document released by BBMP indicates it as completed.

As part of the broader road widening initiative in Mahadevapura, 16 roads were slated for expansion, including Kasavanahalli main road, which has witnessed a surge in vehicle traffic and housing. BBMP undertook the work under the 'Comprehensive Development of Kasavanahalli Main Road from Sarjapura Main Road to Choodasandra' project at the cost of 9 crores. Under the project, two roads have been allocated for development-Kasavanahalli Main Road and Lifestyle Road.

The lifestyle road was proposed to be widened to 10m up to 750m in length with an RCC drain, and the 2.50 km long Kasavanahalli main road was supposed to be widened to 18m as per RMP 2015 along with an RCC drain.

The project started in July 2021 is only 60 per cent completed, according to official records and the whole project is expected to be completed by the end of September.

Contrary to this, a document from BBMP, regarding 'Widening of Roads in RI-Mahadevapura Division,' states that the entire 2.50 km of Kasavanahalli main road has been widened to 18 meters from its prior width of 6-12 meters.

However, a senior BBMP official told BM the project is still in progress. According to sources, the project has been halted since April due to non-payment of contractor dues by BBMP.

Residents say that the delay in road widening has affected them." For the past two years, no road widening of the Kasavanahalli main road has happened. Funds have been allocated, and nearly 25 per cent of footpath work has been completed.

Road work and the rest of the work have been halted. Now, officials are playing the blame game, stating that the contractors have stopped work.

Officials have been saying that a widening notification has to be issued by the road widening team. There are more than 1.5 lakh commuters on this narrow stretch,

> **"Funds have been allocated, and 25 per cent of footpath work has been completed. Road work and the rest of the work have been halted**
> – Vishnu Prasad, Bellandur Forum

which connects Hosur Road to Sarjapur Road. Due to no ward administration, footpaths are always encroached, and footpaths are all broken," said Vishnu Prasad of Bellandur Forum.

Another resident, Valli Bhuvana, said that, of late, a lot of housing has been mushrooming and leading to an increase in vehicles. "This road connects E-city and Sarjapura main road. Off late, the rent being charged for the area has gone up. More people are coming here, and small plots are mushrooming into 1 RK apartment.

There is no drainage and insufficient Cauvery water supply. Due to the construction, a lot of heavy vehicles pass through the stretch. As housing goes up, more school buses commute through the stretch.

Apart from a few slabs being removed and the desilting of drains, we are not seeing any widening. Our properties were marked for road expansion in 2017, but the project has not been completed," she added. The delay has left residents grappling with the unfulfilled promise of a better road.

Karnataka clears 91 investment projects worth Rs 7,660 crore

Investment proposals have potential to generate 1,81,416 employment opportunities in state

On Friday, the State Level Single Window Clearance Committee (SLSWCC) cleared 91 industrial investment proposals worth Rs 7,659.52 crore, Karnataka Large and Medium Industries Minister MB Patil said.

The Minister said that the investment proposals have the potential to generate 1,81,416 employment opportunities in the state.

The SLSWCC committee, headed by Minister Patil, approved 26 projects involving more than Rs 50 crore in investment, totalling Rs 5,750.73 crore. "These investment proposals hold the potential to create 13,742 jobs in the state," the Karnataka minister said.

Some top investors include Maruti Suzuki India, Aequs Consumer, South West Mining and Tata Semiconductor, and Krypton (India) Solutions Private Ltd, among others.

As per officials, out of the total 91 proposals, about 57 investment projects with a total estimated cost of Rs 1,144.94 crore hold the potential of generating 4404 employment opportunities in the state while eight projects with an additional investment of Rs 763. 85 crore were also approved by the Committee.

> **About 57 investment projects with a total estimated cost of Rs 1,144.94 crore hold the potential of generating 4,404 employment opportunities in the state**

Principal Secretary of Commerce and Industries S Selvakumar, Gunjan Krishna, Commissioner for Industrial Development, Mohammad Mohsin, Secretary, Department of Labour, M Mahesh, Chief Executive Officer, Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board, Darshan H V, Director, Department of IT/BT, Doddabasavaraju, Managing Director of Karnataka Udyog Mitra were present at the meeting. – ANI

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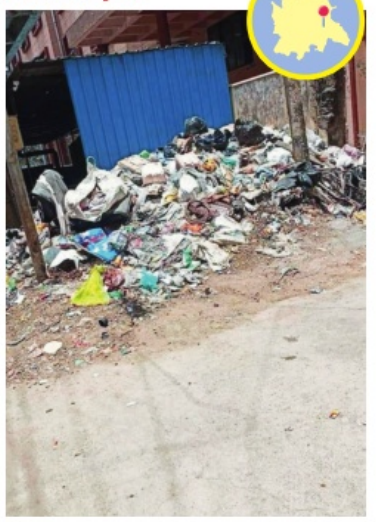
Traffic chokepoint

Munnekolala

The narrow road between Ayuug Yashomati Hospital and Imperial Hotel Munnekolala faces persistent traffic congestion due to vehicles parked on both sides.

Urban issue

Cubbonpet



Cubbonpet area grapples with numerous problems, from debris to dust.

Waste misplaced

Pulikeshi Nagar

ESI Office on Haines Road becomes a dumping ground for waste and construction materials.

Concerns grow over slow progress of B'luru rail project

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Citizens have once again voiced their concerns over the sluggish pace of the Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP), led by Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited (K-RIDE). A city-based community service group penned a letter addressing multiple authorities and heads of government agencies, emphasising the challenges faced by the BSRP.

The letter sent to the Railway Minister and Chief Secretary of the state has underlined that while the much-delayed and much-needed infrastructure project was sanctioned in October 2020 by the Centre, on-ground work started only in December 2022, and it is still moving at a snail's pace.

"Actual on-ground work started only after 26 months of the sanction when all the four corridors of the project were to be completed in 72 months. Moreover, despite a clear stipulation in the sanction letter for the airport corridor to be completed within October 2023 and a strong recommendation from DULT reaffirming priority for the corridor, the state government decided to put it in cold storage against the larger interests of Bengaluru. There are many reasons why the airport corridor is very useful for Bengaluru. Unfortunately, even tender has not been awarded for it yet," said Raj Kumar Dugar, founder of C4C, the group that has taken up the issue.

K-RIDE said to have started work only 26 months after sanction

The letter also highlights the necessity of a full-time Managing Director (MD) for K-RIDE, which has been without a head for over a year.

Public mobility advocates argued that while the current in-charge MD is competent, K-RIDE urgently needs a full-time MD to accelerate the project's pace. The previous MD's tenure at K-RIDE concluded in July 2022, and the government appointed an interim MD in August of the same year until a new MD is appointed.

"The current in-charge MD is unable to find time for KRIDE due to various other more important responsibilities. KRIDE itself has many senior-level vacancies. Without MD being even present in the office, the team is likely to work at cross-purposes. This is not in the interests of the organisation or the citizens. KRIDE needs a full-time MD to gear up for faster work," added Dugar.

Experts indicated that K-RIDE's primary focus should be expediting the setup of a suburban rail system. However, the organisation is engaged in a more extensive project involving the construction of a parallel rail network alongside the existing one, leading to time constraints. They suggested utilising existing railway lines with minor technological adjustments.

"A simple tweak with automatic signalling would have done the trick, and train frequency would have been improved across all the existing rail lines, which are currently severely underutilised. While technology is available, there is a lack of imagination. The K-RIDE team should be taken on a trip to Mumbai to understand the possibilities. Although minor interventions might be required on busy corridors such as the corridor between Majestic and Cantonment, a basic suburban rail project can be set up within four to six months for the time being," Sandeep Anirudhan, a city-based public mobility proponent.

Sandalwood sorrow: Bangalore University's tree trouble

BU has lost more than 120 sandalwood trees since 2016

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The Bangalore University (BU) campus is home to one of the city's largest numbers of sandalwood trees. However, it is also rapidly losing many trees. It is estimated that there are 1,000 sandalwood trees on the vast campus. Regrettably, approximately 10 per cent of these trees have fallen victim to illegal logging. According to estimates, eight trees have been felled in the past two months, while the campus has lost 120 trees since 2016.

Bangalore University Vice-Chancellor Jayakara Shetty stated, "We are in a dilemma as we cannot close the interior roads, and there is no continuous compound in the campus, allowing many strangers to enter. We have now decided to hire ex-servicemen for patrolling the campus. I have already brought this issue to Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and Higher Education Minister Dr MC Sudhakar. Sudhakar has expressed his intention to visit the campus personally."

Renowned for its sprawling 1,200-acre campus, Bangalore University is home to a diverse range of flora and fauna, including over a thousand sandalwood trees. However, the university faces the significant challenge of safeguarding these sandalwood trees, as they are consistently being felled and stolen. Each year, poachers cut down more than 30 trees and escape due to the lack of surveillance. Unfortunately, capturing these poachers is difficult since they operate under darkness, leading to no action being taken. Officials have noted that the poachers spare no tree, even those aged between five to six years.

Approximately 10 per cent of the Sandalwood trees on the Bangalore University campus have fallen victim to illegal logging

> **"We cannot close the interior roads, as there is no continuous compound in the campus. We have decided to hire ex-servicemen for patrolling the campus**
>
> –Jayakara Shetty, VC

In numerous recent meetings, various security enhancement ideas were discussed. Some BU officials suggested the need to replace the existing security, which has proven ineffective in preventing poaching. Furthermore, due to the lack of adequate lighting in many areas of the campus, a proposal was put forward to install solar lights around the sandalwood trees. Additionally, a network of CCTV cameras was planned to allow security personnel to monitor activities near the trees remotely. Among other proposals was a suggestion to install 50 CCTV cameras on the campus. However, these initiatives have yet to materialise thus far.

There have also been suggestions to close the university gates by 9 pm to regulate traffic and monitor suspicious activities. However, this proposal has encountered resistance, particularly from locals and students. Many important roads traverse the BU campus, with one road connecting Mysuru Road (near Jnana Bharathi Metro station) to Ullal Main Road. Locals and students argue that closing the gates by 9 pm would inconvenience them, forcing them to take a detour of five to six kilometres to reach their destinations.

Officials are exploring other measures to address this issue, including fencing the entire university campus, arming security guards with air guns, deploying patrolling vehicles, entrusting the maintenance of sandalwood trees to Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Limited (KSDL), and installing chips in sandalwood trees to deter poaching. An official stated, "Except for handing over the maintenance to KSDL, which needs to be discussed with the government, the other measures entail costs to the exchequer. Therefore, we need to thoroughly discuss these issues at the next Syndicate meeting and make a decision."

Big drug haul in city

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In a recent crackdown on drug dealers within the city, the Central Crime Branch (CCB) police in Bengaluru confiscated drugs valued at Rs 7.83 crore. Among the 14 peddlers apprehended, three were foreigners. According to Bengaluru Police Commissioner B Dayananda, the accused individuals faced charges in seven cases spread across various police stations in the city, including Varthur, Banashankari, Vidyaranyapura, Cottonpet, and Kadugodi.

Notably, this operation marked the first seizure of mephedrone in Bengaluru, with 1,800 grams confiscated. The dealers were charging Rs 15,000 per gram for mephedrone.

Francis, a Nigerian national, was found to possess MDMA, cocaine, and mephedrone valued at Rs 1.8 crore. Authorities revealed that he entered India in 2012, sourced drugs from Mumbai and other locations, and distributed them within the city.

The police arrested four peddlers and seized hash oil worth Rs 1.3 crore. The accused facilitated measuring by bringing hash oil from Andhra Pradesh and packaging it in syringes. The suspects were identified as Suresh, Akshay, Aditya, and Saiee Chaithanya.

In a separate case, the police apprehended three peddlers carrying 200 kg of marijuana. The contraband was imported from Orissa by Kunna Sunna, Jalandar, and Jagadish and sold in significant quantities to peddlers in the city.

Furthermore, the police seized MDMA crystals worth Rs. 1.05 crore from foreigners Thoru Mustafa and Enimo.

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

PRETTY HORNS

A swamp deer in its habitat in Kaziranga

The picture was clicked by BM reader **NJ Ravi Chander**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Stink alert: Hold your breath

Citizens express frustration over stench that's plaguing JC Road; shop owners are compelled to light incense sticks

| Sridhar Vivan
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There has been an extensive use of incense sticks on JC Road. If you are wondering why, then the shopkeepers say that with Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) failing to help them, the only option left for them to keep away from the stench is to always light incense sticks.

A BM reader said, "In a disturbing turn of events, the residents and shopkeepers around JC Road, particularly opposite the New Metro Hotel, have been grappling with an alarming rise in public nuisance and urination incidents. This issue has persisted despite the presence of not only concerned citizens but also the authorities, including traffic police stationed nearby. The problem primarily stems from the apparent neglect of a building under construction nearby."

The negligence of this structure has created an environment conducive to public inconvenience, leaving local business owners with no option but to keep incense sticks burning continuously from the moment they open their shops until closing time, they added. Furthermore, local residents and business owners expressed their deep concern and frustration regarding this issue.

Suresh Jain, a shop owner, said, "It's become a daily struggle to maintain a pleasant environment for our customers. We shouldn't have to resort to lighting incense sticks to mask the unpleasant odours caused by public urination. The situation is exacerbated by the presence of persistent touts and rowdy elements, often blocking traffic by soliciting accessories from passing vehicles. These touts create a chaotic atmosphere that is detrimental to our businesses. It's high time authorities step in to restore order."

Adding to the chorus of concerns, a frequent commuter on JC Road, Ravi Kumar, said, "The traffic situation has become a nightmare. It's almost impossible to navigate through the chaos caused by these touts. The authorities need to act swiftly to ensure the smooth flow of traffic."

Despite the continued pleas from the community, it appears that none of the authorities have taken any substantial action to address these pressing concerns. In light of this, residents and shopkeepers are now urging the authorities to take immediate action in the best interest of public safety, traffic management, and the livelihoods of local businesses.

Citizens say that it has become a struggle to maintain a pleasant environment due to stench on JC Road

DID YOU KNOW?

The National Gallery of Modern Art is considered to be one of the most popular and must-visit art galleries in the city. It is known to showcase the works of popular Indian artists such as Rabindranath Tagore, Raja Ravi Verma, Amrita Sher-Gil, Jamini Roy, and more. It was inaugurated in February 2009. The building of the art gallery is said to be the restored Manikyavelu Mansion, which once was owned by Vilum Manickavelu Mudaliar. It was only in 2000 that the government subleased the mansion to the Ministry of Kannada and Culture. The gallery has an auditorium, cafeteria, and library.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

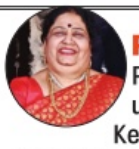
Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

How do you spend a phone free day in the city?

Sharath Guru, BM Reader
Phones are used for communication and for sharing information quickly. A lot of misinformation can also be disseminated, so to stay away from phones once in a while, I read books. It may be fictional, non-fictional, or a novel.



Prasanna Balu, BM Reader
Phones affect the eyes; scrolling up and down causes eye strain. Keeping the phone in the pocket with the vibration of a loud ringtone affects the heart. Therefore, I like to keep the phone away for a while and go for a walk, which refreshes my mind.

Nandini, BM Reader
Usually, phones are the life of people; they cannot leave them. But still, they should step forward and stay away from their phones. Go on short trips, listen to music on the radio, and start a conversation with neighbours and friends.

Divya Murali, BM Reader
I would like to read newspapers and magazines. This helps improve my general knowledge, communication skills, and reading ability.

Mokshith Karkera, BM Reader
I go for a ride in my two-wheeler, keeping my phone away for a while. I also explore new places and stop near restaurants to eat delicious food.

Nagarathna, BM Reader
In my garden, different types of plants and flowers are grown. I love my garden. Walking in the garden for a while in the evening soothes my mind and provides energy to work. Keeping my phone away once in a while refreshes my mind.

SPEAK TO US

Which is a local delicacy that you would suggest to a visitor from outside to try in the city?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

THE SUNDAY READ

In hot water

Hundreds of dead fish floating in the contaminated water of Chikkanagamangala lake (file photo)

Water quality analysis of 90 lakes of Bengaluru is out in public domain — results are grim; 7 lakes have no oxygen

Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board's (KSPCB) detailed water quality analysis of 90 lakes in Bengaluru paints a grim picture - none of the water bodies have all the parameters meeting desirable levels. In the majority of cases, they are way off the charts.

Although the water quality report based on 25 parameters such as dissolved oxygen (DO), Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), phosphate, nitrate, total coliform, etc. has been put up in the public domain by the Board for the first time, it only highlights the sad reality of Bengaluru's lakes.

According to the report, in July, seven lakes, namely Ibbalur, Bellandur, Yelemallapashetty, Varthur, Shivpura, and Chandapura, were in the oxygen red alert zone (with below detection level of oxygen). All these lakes with no oxygen also recorded very high BOD levels and astonishingly high levels of pathogen-based contamination (total and faecal coliform bacteria). While the highest TC levels in some lakes were found to be 5,000 to 7,000 times more than the permissible limit, the phosphate levels were found to be more than 100 times the permissible level, and DO levels were 15 times below the prescribed value for a somewhat healthy ecosystem.

While DO was found to be below 0.3mg/l in multiple lakes, BOD in some cases was found to be more than 50mg/l. Total coliform was found to be as high as 3,50,00,000MPN/100ml and phosphate levels were also found to be much more than the permissible limits. As per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), a waterbody that can used as a drinking water source after conventional treatment and disinfection should have a total coliforms organism level at 5,000 MPN/100ml, DO value of 4mg/l or more, and BOD OF 3 mg/l or less.

2 lakes are alright

Just two lakes - Puttenahalli and Allasandra - had the ideal total coliform level (540 MPN/100ml and 1,600 MPN/100ml respectively) for a waterbody that can be used as a drinking water source after conventional treatment and disinfection.

As per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), waterbody that can be used as a drinking water source without conventional treatment but after disinfection should have a total coliforms organism level of less than 50 MPN/100ml, DO of 6 mg/l or more, and BOD of 2 mg/l or less. Water bodies that can be used for outdoor bathing should have a total coliform level of less than 500 MPN/100ml, DO of 5 mg/l or more, and BOD of 3 mg/l or less.

Phosphate level

The report also highlights that all 90 lakes have phosphate levels much higher than the CPCB's detection limit of 0.05 mg/l. The level of this nutrient in the city's lakes varies between 8 mg/l and 0.2 mg/l. Experts say the level of phosphate more than 0.08 mg/l could trigger eutrophication, limiting the primary productivity of the ecosystem. as it is the primary initiating factor. Phosphate enters the lakes in domestic wastewater, accounting for the condition of eutrophication.

7 lakes - Ibbalur, Bellandur, Yelemallapashetty, Varthur, Shivpura, and Chandapura - were in the oxygen red alert zone (with below detection level of oxygen). These lakes also had high levels of pathogen-based contamination

While the report, for the first time, has taken into consideration 25 parameters and is available in the public domain, experts say it still lacks vital information for the results to be considered valid.

"The report lacks some vital information such as time of sampling and temperature of the samples - both critical aspects for a valid test result. It also does not talk about the location from which samples were collected. Although a water quality analysis report of lakes based on 25 parameters in the public domain is a welcome step, the board must consider including this information for the data to cohere. KSPCB should also measure chlorophyll levels to determine the level of eutrophication," said V Ramprasad, founder of Friends of Lakes.

Some also demand that details of the sampling process should also be made public so the report can be put to use.

"It is important to understand the methodology followed in the sample collection process. Details regarding whether the samples were collected from different locations and mixed for testing and samples collected every hour from a single spot and mixed before analysis will also provide better clarity on the water quality of the lakes. Moreover, KSPCB should also clarify if the legal sampling process was followed before the analysis. In the absence of all these details, the exercise appears to be an eyewash. If all due processes are followed, the results will be poorer," said a city-based environmentalist.

All parameters considered

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) shared the 25 parameters of lake water analysis for July 2023 after much lobbying by lake activists to put out data of particular parameters checked during water quality tests.

Lake activists say that the data will aid in understanding the content of water and prevent future pollution.

In a report by ActionAid Association titled 'Data on Lake Water Quality in the Public Domain', submitted to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) as well as the KSPCB in June this year, the organisation notes that physio-chemical parameters results explain organic and inorganic substances in the water, and the situation of lake water based on which further actions to arrest pollutants can be taken by the local community.

"It is observed that the number of physio-chemical parameters used for testing lake water samples varies from as little as one parameter to a maximum of 44 parameters. In the case of Karnataka, only Designated Best Use (DBU) is provided which does not disclose all the physio-chemical parameters, therefore any last-minute intervention of saving lake water quality is not possible," the report said.

It further added that the CPCB should advise KSPCB to stop singularly reporting DBUs.

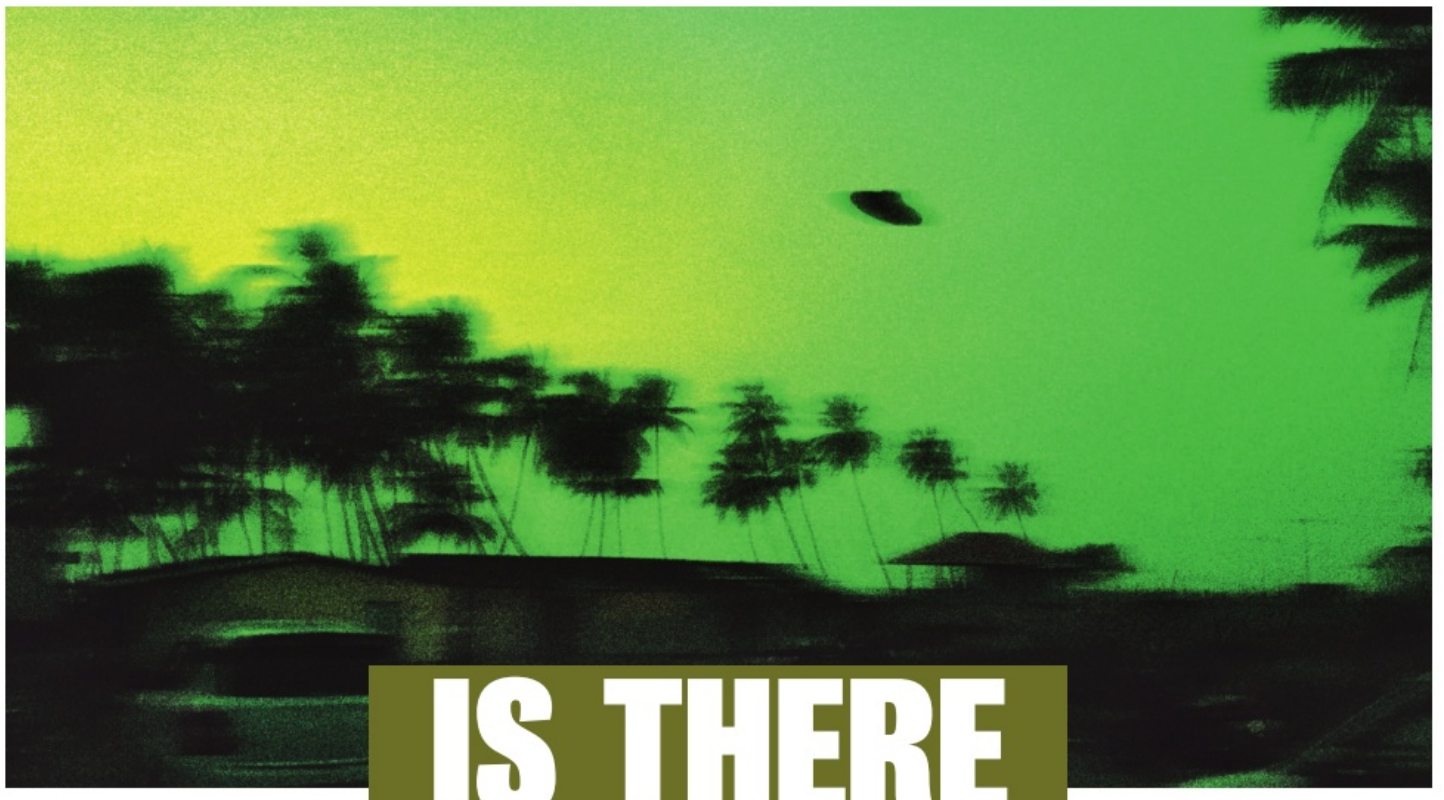
"CPCB needs to issue guidelines on report format for all SPCBs (State Pollution Control Boards) and PCCs (Pollution Control Committees) which shall include a minimum of 5-10 basic physio-chemical parameters. For example, pH, Conductivity, Biochemical Oxygen Demand, Total Coliform, Fecal Coliform and Dissolved Oxygen," it recommended.

Raghavendra Pachhapur from ActionAid Association had previously told Bangalore Mirror, ""The KSPCB has jurisdiction over 223 lakes across the state with 115 lakes being within the boundaries of Bengaluru alone. The parameters help us understand what is happening within the water of these lakes. For example, if coliform is found through testing, it means that the water is seeing a significant inlet of faeces, pointing to problems with maintenance of sewage treatment plants (STPs) or other sources of sewage entry."

KSPCB has begun to put out data regarding the parameters, lake activists believe that the data can be used to reduce fish kills taking place across the city. As many as 16 fish kills have been reported since the beginning of this year alone.

—Rachana Ramesh

NASA report finds no evidence that UFOs are extraterrestrial



IS THERE ANYBODY OUT THERE?

NASA's independent study team released its highly anticipated report on UFOs on September 14, 2023.

In part to move beyond the stigma attached to UFOs, where military pilots fear ridicule if they report them, UFOs are now characterised by the US government as UAPs, or unidentified anomalous phenomena.

Bottom line: The study team found no evidence that reported UAP observations are extraterrestrial. I'm a professor of astronomy and I have long been skeptical of the claim that UFOs represent visits by aliens to Earth.

Science no sensational

NASA Administrator Bill Nelson noted that NASA has scientific programs to search for traces of life on Mars and the imprints of biology in the atmospheres of exoplanets. He said he wanted to shift the UAP conversation from sensationalism to one of science. With this statement, Nelson was alluding to some of the more outlandish claims about UAPs and UFOs.

At a congressional hearing in July, former Pentagon officer David Grusch testified that the American government has been hiding evidence of crashed UAPs and alien biological specimens. Sean Kirkpatrick, head of the Pentagon office, has denied these claims.

And the same week NASA's report came out, Mexican lawmakers were shown by journalist Jaime Maussan two tiny, 1,000-year-old bodies that he claimed were the remains of "non-human" beings.

Scientists have called this claim fraudulent and say the mummies may have been looted from gravesites in Peru.

Conclusions

The NASA study team report sheds little light on whether some UAPs are extraterrestrial.

In his comments, the chair of the study team, astronomer David Spergel stated that the team had seen "no evidence to suggest that UAPs are extraterrestrial in origin."

Of the over 800 unclassified sightings by the Department of Defence's All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office and reported at the NASA panel's first public meeting back in May 2023, only "a small handful cannot be immediately identified as known human-made or natural phenomena," according to the report.

Many of the recent sightings can be attributed to weather balloons and airborne clutter. Historically, most UFOs are astronomical objects such as meteors, fireballs and the planet Venus.

Some represent surveillance operations by foreign powers, which is why the US military considers this a national security issue.

UFOs are now characterised as UAPs, or unidentified anomalous phenomena. Of the over 800 unclassified sightings reported to NASA in May 2023, only a handful cannot be immediately identified as 'known human made or natural phenomena'

Most of the UAP data considered by the team comes from US military aircraft. Analysis of this data is "hampered by poor sensor calibration, lack of multiple measurements, the lack of sensor metadata, and the lack of baseline data."

The ideal set of measurements would include optical imaging, infrared imaging, and radar data, but very few reports have all these.

The authors note the importance of reducing the stigma that can cause both military and commercial pilots to feel that they cannot freely report sightings.

The stigma stems from decades of conspiracy theories tied to UFOs.

The NASA study team suggests gathering sightings by commercial pilots using the Federal Aviation Administration and combining these with classified sightings not included in the report.

Team members did not have security clearance, so they could look only at the subset of military sightings that were unclassified.

At the moment, there is no anonymous nationwide UAP reporting mechanism for commercial pilots.

With access to these classified sightings and a structured mechanism for commercial pilots to report sightings, the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office – the military office charged with leading the analysis effort – could have the most data.

NASA also announced the appointment of a new director of research on UAPs.

Needle in a haystack

Parts of the briefing resembled a primer on the scientific method. Using analogies, officials described the analysis process as looking for a needle in a haystack, or separating the wheat from the chaff.

The officials said they needed a consistent and rigorous methodology for characterising sightings to home in on something anomalous.

Spergel said the study team's goal was to characterise the hay – or the mundane phenomena – and subtract it to find the needle, or the potentially exciting discovery.

He noted that artificial intelligence can help researchers comb through massive datasets to find rare, anomalous phenomena. AI is already being used this way in many areas of astronomy research.

The speakers noted the importance of transparency. Transparency is important because UFOs have long been associated with conspiracy theories and government cover-ups. Similarly, much of the discussion during the congressional UAP hearing in July focused on a need for transparency.

All scientific data that NASA gathers is made public on various websites, and officials said they intend to do the same with the nonclassified UAP data.

At the beginning of the briefing, Nelson gave his opinion that there were perhaps a trillion instances of life beyond Earth.

So, it's plausible that there is intelligent life out there. But the report says that when it comes to UAPs, extraterrestrial life must be the hypothesis of last resort.

It quotes Thomas Jefferson: "Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence." That evidence does not yet exist.

(By Chris Impey, University of Arizona, The Conversation)

BITS & BYTES

FOR SMARTER AI

Researchers led by an Indian-origin scientist in the US have harnessed the biological concept for application in artificial intelligence (AI) to develop the first artificial, multisensory integrated neuron that processes visual and tactile input together.

Led by Saptarshi Das, associate professor of engineering science and mechanics at Penn State, the team published their work in the journal Nature Communication. "Robots make decisions based on the environment they are in, but their sensors do not generally talk to each other," said Das. **IANS**

FB FAILED ON MISINFO

The Covid-19 vaccine misinformation policies of Facebook, the world's largest social media platform, were not effective in combating misinformation and its overall design is more to blame for this rather than just algorithms, a new study has revealed.

The study, led by researchers at the George Washington University in the US and published in the journal Science Advances, found that Facebook's efforts were undermined by the core design features of the platform itself. "To effectively tackle misinformation and other online harms, we need to move beyond content and algorithms to also focus on design and architecture," said David Broniatowski, lead study author. **IANS**

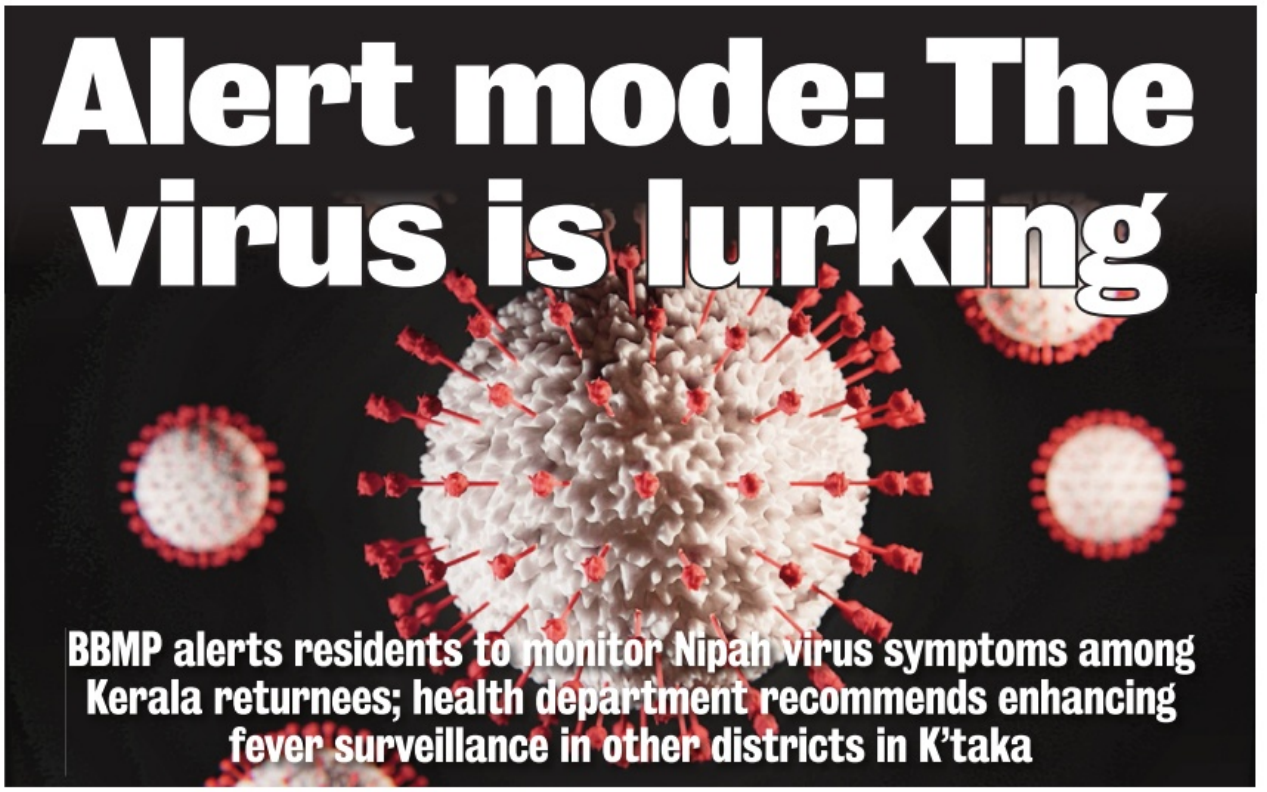
TIKTOK FINED

The Chinese short-video making app TikTok has been fined 345 million euros ($379 million) by the Irish Data Protection Commission (DPC) for failing to keep kids' data safe on its platform. The fine, under the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), was announced in relation to TikTok's processing of personal data relating to child users of its platform.

TikTok was found to have violated eight articles of the GDPR.

As part of the inquiry, the DPC also examined TikTok's transparency obligations, including the extent of information provided to child users in relation to default settings. **IANS**

Alert mode: The virus is lurking



BBMP alerts residents to monitor Nipah virus symptoms among Kerala returnees; health department recommends enhancing fever surveillance in other districts in K'taka

Sridhar.Vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

To prevent the spread of the Nipah virus, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has initiated the distribution of notices to apartment complexes within the city. These notices serve as a reminder to closely monitor individuals returning from Kerala and to be vigilant for any signs of symptoms. The circular issued to apartment complexes states, "Given the reported cases of the Nipah virus in Kerala and the potential for its transmission, with immediate effect, if any symptomatic patients returning from Kerala exhibiting symptoms such as fever, headache, cough, or cold are identified, please contact health officials immediately."

In response to the reported cases of Nipah virus in Kozhikode district, Kerala, which have tragically resulted in two fatalities, officials state that it is necessary to intensify surveillance efforts in the districts bordering Kerala to prevent the further transmission of this highly concerning infection.

"Firstly, it is crucial to discourage unnecessary travel by the general public from Karnataka to the affected areas within Kerala State. This will help contain the potential spread of the virus. Secondly, we advise the establishment of fever surveillance checkposts at all points of entry from Karnataka into Kerala state.

> **"It is crucial to discourage unnecessary travel by the general public from K'taka to the affected areas within Kerala state. This will help contain the spread of the virus** –an official

Additionally, we strongly recommend enhancing fever surveillance in the districts that border Kerala, specifically Chamarajanagara, Mysuru, Kodagu, and Dakshina Kannada," said a health department official.

These measures will help identify and isolate potential cases early. Furthermore, extensive public awareness campaigns should be launched, utilising information, education, and communication (IEC) materials. These campaigns will serve to educate the general public about Nipah virus disease, dispelling any unnecessary panic while ensuring they are well-informed, they said.

Officials said that in preparation for any potential cases, it was vital to provide comprehensive training to healthcare staff at all levels, including those at the Primary Health Centre (PHC) level. Early detection and appropriate management are key to limiting the spread of the virus.

"District Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) should be activated, with the inclusion of veterinary officers, to ensure swift and coordinated responses to any emerging cases. To facilitate the quarantine of suspected cases, if any arise, it is essential to identify and reserve a minimum of two beds in each district hospital. Additionally, negative-pressure intensive care units (ICUs) should be identified for potential use. Hospitals must maintain an ample stock of essential drugs and oxygen to ensure that they are well-prepared to manage cases effectively," added the official.

The Nipah virus is a zoonotic disease, as defined by the World Health Organisation (WHO), meaning it is transmitted to humans from animals and can also spread through contaminated food or direct human-to-human contact. It presents with a range of symptoms, from asymptomatic cases to acute respiratory illness and fatal encephalitis. Furthermore, the virus can cause severe illness in animals, particularly pigs, resulting in significant economic losses for farmers.

"Clinical features of Nipah virus infection typically involve encephalitis, with symptoms such as fever and headache, followed by drowsiness, disorientation, and mental confusion. The case-fatality rate varies between 40 and 75%, with variations by outbreak and the potential for a fatality rate of up to 100%. The virus is primarily transmitted through infected bats," the official explained.

Urgent action needed: Cover this drain

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Fearing dengue spread, residents of Anniah Layout ask BBMP officials to restore slabs on top drains. They say that work was carried out for SWD remodelling, and slabs have yet to be restored for weeks.

In Bengaluru, nearly all footpaths are constructed on top of the drains, and hence all SWD works impact citizens' ability to use them. It is especially vital that, after drain work, the slabs are restored. However, residents of Anniah Layout say that the drains have been left open unattended as residents use wooden planks to walk into homes. The debris from the work still lies on the road.

"Officials left the drain open, and it was pending for quite some time. Now,

Silt removed is lying on the road

with dengue cases on the rise, it's a major risk. The unclosed drains stagnate water and breeds mosquitoes. The work was started weeks ago and was part of the stormwater remodelling work. However, after the work, the contractors did not restore the slabs. These drains have to be closed to ensure no one falls into them. In some stretches, a portion of the drain work is not completed. One of the houses is using wooden planks to get inside their homes," said Karthikeyan, a resident of the area.

Furthermore, another resident, Melson, said that they have been struggling. "They did half the job, and no work has happened since then. All the silt removed is also lying on the road, and residents are not able to enter the houses without the help of wooden planks. They are unable to park their vehicles inside and have to leave them outside," he added. Residents also highlight that BBMP officials keep changing, making it difficult to address local issues. Amith Nigli, another resident, informed, "The work order was given before elections, and work started 3–4 months ago."

When BM reached out to the area BBMP official, he said, "I am not aware of the issue. If residents share a location, we will look into it."

Pitch for 3 Deputy CMs creates flutter

Cooperation Minister KN Rajanna floated the idea of having three more Deputy Chief Ministers in Karnataka on Saturday and said he would discuss it with the Congress high command, keeping in mind the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

He pitched for Deputy Chief Minister posts to be given to leaders from Veerashaiva-Lingayat, SC/ST, and minority communities.

Currently, DK Shivakumar from the Vokkaliga community is the Deputy Chief Minister in the Siddaramaiah-led cabinet. He is also the state Congress president.

"Lok Sabha elections are at our doorstep, and we are seeing that all the parties are making preparations for the polls. It is our intention that the Congress should win the maximum number of seats in Karnataka, and we are also confident that we will win," Rajanna told reporters.

"One post (DCM) should be given to a leader from the SC/ST community, second to a minority community leader, and third to a Veerashaiva community leader, as there is a feeling the community has gone away from the Congress, and it has been proved from these Assembly poll results that the Veershaiva community votes have mostly come back to the party," he added.

Rajanna's pitch for three DCMs is notwithstanding the Congress' decision that Shivakumar will be "the only" Deputy CM. **–PTI**

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IN 4DX AT
PVR CINEMAS {PHOENIX MARKETCITY MALL, 12:30, 6:40 P.M. | NEXUS FORUM MALL, KORAMANGALA, 12:15, 6:25 P.M. | ORION MALL, 12:30, 6:40 P.M. | VEGA CITY, 3:00, 9:35 P.M. | BHARTIYA CITY, 12:45, 6:55 P.M. | FALCON CITY, 12:15, 6:25 P.M.} | CINEPOLIS {NEXUS SHANTHINIKETAN, 3:10, 6:40 P.M.}.
PVR - INOX CINEMAS {REX | NEXUS | ORION | VAISHNAVI | VEGA CITY | REGALIA | MARKETCITY | BHARTIYA | GT | AURA | SPIRIT | VR | UPTOWN | GLOBAL | FALCON CITY | MANTRI | CENTRAL | GARUDA | YELAHANKA | SWAGATH | BROOKFIELD | LIDO | NEXUS NEIGHBOURHOOD | SBR | RMZ | TUMKUR S MALL | MYSORE GARUDA - NEXUS - SATYAM - CENTRO | MANGALORE NEXUS | MANIPAL - CENTRAL MALL} | CINEPOLIS CINEMAS {MEENAKSHI | ETA | ORION EAST | LULU | SJR | NEXUS SHANTHINIKETAN | MANGALORE} | GOPALAN CINEMAS {ARCADE | LEGACY | GRAND | SIGNATURE | INNOVATION} | INNOVATIVE {MARATHHALLI} | KINO CINEMA {SEEGEHALLI} | CINEPHILE {HSR LAYOUT} | ROCKLINE {JALAHALLI} | MUKTA A2 CINEMAS {UTTARAHALLI} | MIRAJ CINEMAS {SUNKADAKATTE} | DRC CINEMAS {MYSORE} | VISION CINEMAS {MYSORE} | BHARATH CINEMAS {MANGALORE | MANIPAL | KUNDAPURA | PADUBIDRI | PUTTUR | SHIMOGA} | CINE GALAXY {SURATKAL} | MOVIE TIME {DAVANGERE | BELLARY} | SANTHOSH THEATRE {K.G.ROAD} | ABHINAY {K.G.ROAD} | URVASHI THEATRE {BANGALORE} | MUKUNDA THEATRE {MARUTI SEVANAGAR} | CAUVERY THEATRE {SANKEY ROAD} | VEERESH THEATRE {MAGADI ROAD} | SWAGATH SHANKARNAG {M.G.RAOD} | SWAGATH POORNIMA {J.C.RAOD} | AMRUTH THEATRE {LINGARAJPURAM} | HMT THEATRE {JALAHALLI} | RENUKA PRASANNA THEATRE {J. P. NAGAR} | RAVI THEATRE {EEGIPURA} | VICTORY CINEMAS {KAMAKSHIPALYA} | VAIBHAV {SANJAY NAGAR} | LAKSHMI {TAVAREKERE} | VENKATESHWARA {KENGERI} | SRINIVASA {GOWDANAPALYA} | RAVI {SARJAPURA} | BALAJI {DOMMASANDRA} | LAKSHMI {GOTTIGERE} | VAJRESHWARI {ULLALA} | PRUTHVI {NAGAWARA} | SHARADA THEATRE {SP ROAD} | BALAJI {VANNARPET} | TIRUMALA {HSR LAYOUT} | MANASA {KONANKUNTE} | SANDHYA {MADIWALA} | BRUNDA {HONGASANDRA} | GALAXY PARADISE {BEGUR ROAD} | RAJ MURALI {KODIGEHALLI} | MAHADESHWARA {KADIRENAHALLI} | VIJAY {Mysore Road} | VINAYAKA THEATRE {Harinagara} | VINAYAKA THEATRE {Mysore Road} | VIJAYALAKSHMI {Garudachar Palya} | RADHAKRISHNA THEATRE {R T Nagar} | PUSHPANJALI THEATRE {B N Pura} | VENKATESHWARA THEATRE {K R Puram} | KRISHNA THEATRE {Bommana Halli} | SIDDALINGESHWARA THEATRE {JP Nagar} | GOVARDHAN THEATRE {Yeshwanthpur} | VAINIDHI {Singapura} | ANJAN {Magadi Road} | PUSHPANJALI THEATRE {Sultanpalya} | VINAYAKA THEATRE {D J Halli} | SANGAMESHWARA THEATRE {Vijayapura} | NANDEESHWARA THEATRE {Jigani} | SAVITHA THEATRE {Malleswaram} | SRI VINAYAKA THEATRE {Varthur} | VANI THEATRE {Kanakapura} | SHARDHA THEATRE {Kolar} | SOUNDAYRAY MAHAL THEATRE {Doddaballapura} | ALANKAR THEATRE {Hoskote} | TRIMURTHY THEATRE {Tiptur} | ADARSHA THEATRE {Chinthamani} | VARADARAJA THEATRE {Mulbagal} | JAI BHARATH THEATRE {Tumkur} | SHANKAR THEATRE {Madhugiri} | VENKATESHWARA THEATRE {Shidlagatta} | KRISHNA THEATRE {Chikkaballapura} | LAKSHMINARASIMHA THEATRE {Anekal} | GOWRISHANKAR THEATRE {Attibele} | SHIVANANDA THEATRE {Chennapatna} | MEENAKSHI THEATRE {KGF} | SANGAM THEATRE {Mysore} | BALAJI DELUXE {Mysore} | JAYALAKSHMI THEATRE {Mandya} | SREE GURU THEATRE {Hassan} | BALAJI THEATRE {Channarayapatna} | SLN THEATRE {Holenarasipura} | KRISHNA THEATRE {Kollegala} | BRAMHARAMBHA THEATRE {Chamarajanagara} | RATHNA THEATRE {Arasikere} | SCVDS THEATRE {K R Nagara} | COORG CINEPLEX {Kushalnagara} | MALLIKARJUNA THEATRE {Shimoga} | SRI LEKA THEATRE {Chikamagalore} | SATHYA THEATRE {Bhadravathi} | VIJAYLAKSHMI THEATRE {Kadur} | SP CINEMAS {Mangalore} | PLANET THEATRE {Karkala} | SHANKAR THEATRE {Baindur} | VASANTHA THEATRE {Davangere} | TRISHUL THEATRE {Davangere} | BASAVESHWARA THEATRE {Chitradurga} | CHOTU MAHARAJ {Chitradurga} | GANGA THEATRE {Bellary} | RADHIKA THEATRE {Bellary} | SARSWATHI THEATRE {Hospet} | RAMAKRISHNA THEATRE {Siraguppa} | RAJA RAJESHWARI THEATRE {Malavalli} | SOMESHWARA THEATRE {Bannuru} | VIJAY(SURYA) THEATRE {Gundalepete} | SHANKAR THEATRE {Sargur} | SHANKAR THEATRE {Ramnagara } | RANGANATHA THEATRE {Sira} | VISHNU {Hagribomanhalli } | PRAKASH {Yelankha} | ASHOKA {Banavara} | JAIMARUTHI {Sakleshpura } | PADMA CINEMAS {Kunigal} | SHANKAR {Gouribidnur} | NANJUNDESHWARA {Hiriyur} | SANTHOSH THEATRE {RPC Layout} | GAYATHRI TALKIES {Hoovinadagali} | SRINIVASA TALKIES {Sandur} | SREE TALKIES {Sagara} | BHARATHI THEATRE {Peenya} | LAKSHMI VENKATESHWARA {Kurugodu} | SHANTHA THEATRE {Honnali} | DEEPAK THEATRE {Bidadi} | VIJAYA THEATRE {Bangarpete} | SANGEETHA THEATRE {Srinivasapura} | RANGA MAHAL{Gowna Pally} | SREE KANTH TALKIES {Harihara}.
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WANTED-SITES- BDA BSK 6th Stg Anjanapura J.P.Nagar Kanakapura Rd Surrounding Immediate Settlement. Phone-9964627255/ 9845511170

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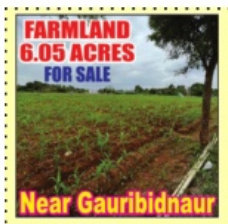

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FOR SALE : JP Ngr 2nd Phase 2 & 3 BHK Duplex Courtyard Terrace Garden 1905 Sqft & 3255 Sqft - Climate Responsive Apartment, 2 Cr & 3.2 Cr with Interiors Ready to move. Call : 9740213520.

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BANGALORE PROPERTIES

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VISVESWARAIAH LAYOUT

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BHARATNAGAR BEL Society 40x60 Site For Sale on 60ft Road and Visveswaraiah Layout 6th Block BDA 30x30 Corner Site Sale.Ph: 9964971895

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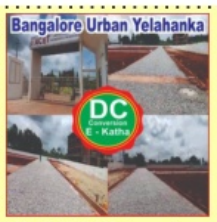

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WANTED: PLOTS or Sites for buying. location: Kasvanahalli, Haralur, Sarjapura rd, Bangalore East. Ph: Madev: 9481466169 / 9945013876

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IAF to buy 100 more LCA jets

#NEW DELHI

In a significant move aimed at strengthening India's aerospace capabilities, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has officially announced its intention to procure about 100 additional Made-in-India LCA Mark 1A fighter jets.During his visit to Spain, Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, the Chief of the Indian Air Force, made this announcement while receiving the first C-295 transport aircraft. Speaking to ANI, he underscored the pivotal role of the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) in replacing the aging MiG-series fleet, which includes the MiG-21, MiG-23, and MiG-27 aircraft.

"With the retirement of these aging aircraft, it is imperative that we bolster our inventory with LCA class aircraft. Therefore, in addition to the 83 LCA Mark 1A aircraft we have already contracted for, we are advocating for the acquisition of around 100 more," Chaudhari said. The Indian Air Force's objective in acquiring these domestically produced aircraft is to phase out the older MiG-series fighter jets in its fleet. The proposal has been formally submitted to the Defence Ministry and other national security stakeholders.

This decision to procure more LCA Tejas fighters follows a comprehensive review meeting. **-ET Online**

Cong rejects 'One Nation, One Election'

At meet, party calls it assault on Constitution, federalism

#HYDERABAD

The Congress on Saturday rejected the 'One Nation, One Election' idea, calling it an assault on the Constitution and federalism.

Addressing a briefing on the deliberations of the first meeting of the reconstituted Congress Working Committee (CWC) here, party leader P Chidambaram said the BJP does not have the numbers to pass the required constitutional amendments for holding simultaneous polls.

"One Nation, One Election is an assault on the Constitution... it is an attack on federalism," he said when asked about the issue.

NATION

It will require at least five constitutional amendments and the BJP knows that it does not have the numbers to pass these, the senior Congress leader said.

"Yet, if it (BJP) puts forward this mirage of 'One Nation, One Election' it is only to divert attention from the pressing issues and to create a false narrative. We reject this 'One Nation, One Election' idea," Chidambaram said.

His remarks come days after the government set up an eight-member high-level committee to examine and make recommendations at the earliest on the issue of holding simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha, state assemblies, municipalities and panchayats.

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge along with party leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi before the Congress Working Committee (CWC) meeting begins in Hyderabad on Saturday

The committee will be headed by former president Ram Nath Kovind and will have Home Minister Amit Shah, Congress leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, former leader of the opposition in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad and former finance commission chairman N K Singh as members.

Chowdhury had later declined to be part of the panel. Later, a resolution passed by the CWC, said the 'One Nation, One Election' proposal is "yet another brazen attack on the federal structure of the country". "The Modi government has systematically undermined federalism through overriding legislation, reduction in the States' share of tax revenues, misuse of the office of Governor, creating roadblocks in implementing schemes and programmes in opposition-governed states like it has happened in regard to the food security guarantee in Karnataka, and denying emergency funds and disaster relief to states like Himachal Pradesh that has been hit by floods and landslides," the resolution stated. **-PTI**

'Busy' BJP fails to appoint leader

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

complaints nor refuse to receive such complaints.

"The Government has to take measures to fill up vacancies. If need be, the government has to amend the rules to fill up vacancies. The government cannot wait till the Opposition party appoints its leader," said Congress leader Ramesh Babu.

Recently, the High Court issued an order to the state government to fill up vacancies at the Karnataka State Human Rights Commission. S Umapathi, an advocate, who filed a petition in the High Court seeking a direction to the state government, said the government has to take measures to fill up vacancies not only at the KSHRC but also Upalokayukta and State Information Commission.

HM Venkatesh, a social activist, put the blame squarely on the BJP for the delay in selecting its leader. "The BJP leaders are busy with their own problems. They are not bothered about the problems of people in the state," said Venkatesh.

According to reliable sources, more than 1,000 complaints have been lodged with the KSHRC since February 2023. The burden on Upalokayukta has also increased due to the delay in filling up the vacancy. Karnataka Lokayukta has the provision to have two Upalokayuktas. One of the Upalokayukta posts fell vacant when the then Upalokta Justice BS Patil was appointed as Lokayukta in June 2022.

A few days ago, an advocate issued a legal notice to the BJP for not selecting the Leader of Opposition.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I Chaitra Vijay Kumar W/o, A. Vijay Kumar. R/o, No 403/1, ashriwad Nilaya, Chikkajala Hobli, sonnappanahalli, bettahalsur Post, Bengaluru-562157 Karnataka have Changed my minor daughter name from Sathya Sadhana Vijaya Kumar To Satya Sadhana Vijay Kumar for all purposes.

I, Raghavendra Prathap Singh R/o No.277, 10th cross, Abbigere main road, Kammagondanahalli, Bengaluru 560015 have changed my minor son name from Gnan Raghavendra Singh to GNAN SINGH affidavit Dt.16/09/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Arshiya Banu w/o Arif Pasha R/o No.2, 3rd cross, Venkataswamappa layout, Shampura, Bengaluru 560032 have changed my name to M Arshiya Banu (Mahaboob Pasha Arshiya Banu) affidavit dt.16/09/2023 notary Harisha g, B'luru

I, Bhavya Ganapa D/o, Prakash.T.S R/o No 4043,4th Floor,wing 4,sobha Valley, Hosakerehalli ,Katriguppe ,Bengaluru 560085 have changed my name to Bhavya Thota for all purposes.

I Vaibhav Mahaveer Jain R/o No-3/7,1st main, 5th cross, govindrajnagar,B'luru 560040 have changed my name to Vaibhav Shah for all purposes.

I Shafeeq Ahmed Khan R/o No 8 New 1st Cross Hidayath Nagar Kadugondanahalli B'lore 560045 have changed my name to Shafiq Khan for all purposes.

I, Laxmi C Shinde R/o No 304 Affinity Serenity Apartment C-27 Yelahanka B'lore-64 Changed My Name Laxmibai to Laxmi C Shinde for All Future Purposes

I, Ankamma A, M/o JC-676246K NB Sub CA Reddy, 1-ATC Changed Name to Annapa reddy Ankamma, Affidavit 11/09/23, Notary KV Mani, Blr

LOST & FOUND

LOST ORIGINAL SALE DEED

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that I, **Mr. Thikkandiyoor Ashok Kumar,** S/o C.M. Menon, residing at No.K-906, Sirus Wing, Brigade Gateway Apartment, Rajkumar Road, Bangalore, have LOST my original Sale Deed registered **No.RJN-1-03727/2009-10,** Book No.1, along with Katha Certificate & Encumbrance Certificate Since 23.07.2018. If anybody found the said documents kindly return to me to the above mentioned address & Call me on **7358533383** within **10 days** from the publication of this notice.

Thikkandiyoor Ashok Kumar

Someone please adopt this flyover

All kinds of debris is dumped under the Wheeler Road flyover

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and stock materials and park vehicles, most of which are abandoned and have been lying here for over a year.

The residents disclosed that heaps of materials like cardboard, wooden planks, clothing materials, construction debris, wooden or steel planks, trash and even materials used for the chariot festival conducted every year have been dumped under the flyover.

A resident of Cox Town told BM, "There is literally no space for the residents to walk here. The whole space has been occupied. This place looks like a neglected locality. We have submitted a letter to the BBMP officials and have even raised the issue in every ward committee meeting but nothing has been done about it. Now post elections, we have not even had any ward meetings so far. The space was beautifully transformed by a NGO but with lack of maintenance and with BBMP not taking any action, it has again fallen into a state of neglect."

Another resident said that just opposite to the underpass is a girls' hostel. "The state of the flyover raises a safety concern for them as some of the people get alcohol from a nearby shop and drink under the space of the flyover. The area is also dimly lit and the illegal activities are going unnoticed."

The residents also pointed out that three years ago with many abandoned vehicles parked near the underpass, they had highlighted it to the Bengaluru traffic police after which the vehicles were cleared. However now vehicles too are back. "We had helped the vendors by giving them space under the flyover to sell fruits and vegetables instead of occupying footpaths. But now they cannot even sell anything there as the entire lot is occupied with waste material," added another resident.

A BBMP official said despite clean-ups, the situation goes back to square one. "We have informed the solid waste management about the issue and they even cleared the space once. The marshals are also deployed in the area, but it is during late nights that people continue to dump the waste materials. We are trying to find a solution to rectify the issue."

HEALTH TIP: Ensure your bedroom is conducive to sleep – dark, quiet, and at a comfortable temperature

Something as simple as a daily walk can help manage stress and induce good sleep

BangaloreMirror | 13
Sunday, September 17, 2023
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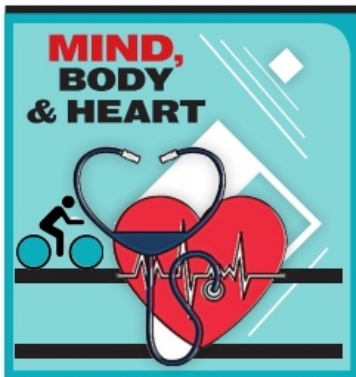

All you need to know about...

Obsessive-compulsive disorder

What is it
Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is a neurological ailment described by compulsive repetitive actions such as cleaning and checking even when there is evident objective confirmation that the environment is clean, organised, and proper.

Not fussiness
Although the sickness is commonly mistaken as 'fussiness,' it is actually caused by a problem with processing ambiguity. However, the neural bases for that abnormal processing remain unknown.

The study
A new study published in the Elsevier journal Biological Psychiatry, Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging uses brain imaging to investigate the mechanisms underpinning uncertainty processing in OCD. The University of Cambridge researchers, lead by Valerie Voon, PhD, examined three groups of people, OCD sufferers, OCD sufferers who had received capsulotomy therapy, which is known to diminish OCD-related brain activity, and healthy controls. The researchers were interested in processing in OCD, as well as how capsulotomy influenced processing.

Clean or not quite?
Dr Voon added, "The imaging data may provide a representation of how OCD patients might struggle with their symptoms. Whereas healthy individuals might be able to say, 'this is clean' and stop cleaning, people with OCD might struggle with that sense of certainty, and perhaps spend more time wondering 'is this still a bit dirty, or is this clean enough,' and clean further."
The findings make clear that OCD is not a disorder of over-cleanliness but one of disordered brain processing of certainty. Experts say this study provides a new view on the mechanism underlying the disabling symptoms of OCD. —ANI

SUPER SUPPER

Superfood bowls that contain nutritious ingredients are delicious, healthy and versatile meal options

INDIAN SUPER FOOD BOWL

INGREDIENTS
- 2 tbsp. soaked red rice
- 2 tbsp. soaked horse gram
- Salt to taste
- ½ tsp of turmeric
- ½ cup steamed mix veggies (peas mandatory)
- 10–12 Amaranth Leaves.
- Pinch of asafoetida
- 1 inch of ginger
- 1 tsp green chilli
- 4 cloves garlic
- 1 tbsp. coriander whole
- 1 small tomato
- 1 small onion
- 1 pc of clove
- 5 pieces of black pepper
- ½ tsp of mustard seeds
- 2 bay leaves
- Coriander leaves to garnish

Chachita
- In a tadka pan, add asafoetida and mustard seeds
- Once the seeds start to sizzle, add spring onions, turmeric, and red chilli powder, and sauté it.
- Turn off the heat and pour this tadka over the curd.

METHOD
- Boil the red rice and horse gram together with the tomatoes, onions, salt and turmeric in a pressure cooker for 4–5 whistles.
- In a mortar and pestle, make a paste with coriander seeds, ginger garlic and green chilli.
- Heat the pan, add bay leaves, mustard seeds, clove, black pepper, the paste and asafoetida .
- Add the veggies and sauté them.
- Once cooked, add the boiled red rice and horse gram.
- Add water and cook it for some more time then add the amaranth leaves.
- Garnish with fresh coriander leaves.
- Combine water and curd, then blend them together with a pinch of salt.

MEXICAN SUPERFOOD BOWL

INGREDIENTS
- 1/2 cup Boiled rajma with salt
- 1/2 cup black rice cooked with salt (Should be soaked for 12 hours and pressure cooked)
- 1 small Onion cut into wedge
- 3/4th cup of 3 color bell pepper cubed
- 3/4th cup of Sweet potato cubed
- 4 Jalapenos slices
- 4 Avocado slices
- 2tbsp Microgreens
- 2 roasted Walnuts chopped
- 1 Coriander sprig
- 4 Spinach leaves hand torn

Mexican Spice
- 1 tbsp cumin seeds
- 1 tbsp dried coriander leaves
- 1 tbsp mild paprika
- 1 tsp ground oregano
- ½ tsp chilli powder
- ½ tsp garlic powder
- Blend everything into a powder

Avocado and & pepper Sauces
- 3/4th cup Cashews
- 3/4th cup Mashed Avocado
- 1 Red capsicum
- 1 tbsp Smoked paprika
- 1 tbsp Lemon juice
- Pinch of Thyme
- 1 tsp Chopped Onion
- 1 tsp Chopped Garlic
- Salt as per taste
- Pepper as per taste
- Roast the peppers, onions, garlic, thyme and cool it down, then puree with avocado, cashew and rest of the ingredients

METHOD
- In a pan, Sauté the vegetables and add salt, pepper and Mexican spice

TO ASSEMBLE
- Place cooked rice in the middle of the bowl, add sautéed vegetables, rajma, hand torn spinach, and avocado on the side and place purple cabbage and Jalapenos on top of the rice.
- Drizzle with avocado and pepper sauce.
- Then garnish with microgreens, coriander, and walnut.

ASIAN SUPER FOOD BOWL

INGREDIENTS
- 4 Slices (100gms) of tofu marinated with soya, ginger and fresh red chilly
- 5- 8 Slices of radish
- 1 small Bok Choy Sauté with garlic and soya sauce
- 3/4th cup of steamed Edamame
- 1 tbsp Spring onion chopped
- 3/4th cup Purple cabbage
- 1 tbsp Peanuts roasted
- 3/4th cup Japanese pumpkin steamed cut into cubes
- ½ cup Boiled millet noodles

Soy and Ginger Sauce
- 3/4th cup Boiled potato puree
- 1 tbsp. Soy sauce
- 1 tsp Ginger chopped
- 1tsp Garlic chopped
- 1tsp Sesame seeds

METHOD
- Heat the pan, add sesame seeds and sauté till its brown, add ginger, garlic and fresh red chillies
- Add Kikkoman soya sauce
- Add tamarind
- Thicken with potato puree
- Stream the sliced Tofu marinated with soy sauce, ginger
- and fresh red chilli and Japanese pumpkin all at one time.
- Sauté Bok choy
- Stir fry purple cabbage

To Assemble
- Arrange steamed pumpkin and roasted peanuts
- Put the soya and ginger sauce in the middle.
- Assemble the rest of the ingredients on the side. Garnish with roasted peanuts and spring onion.

Nidhi Nahata, Justbe

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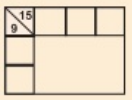
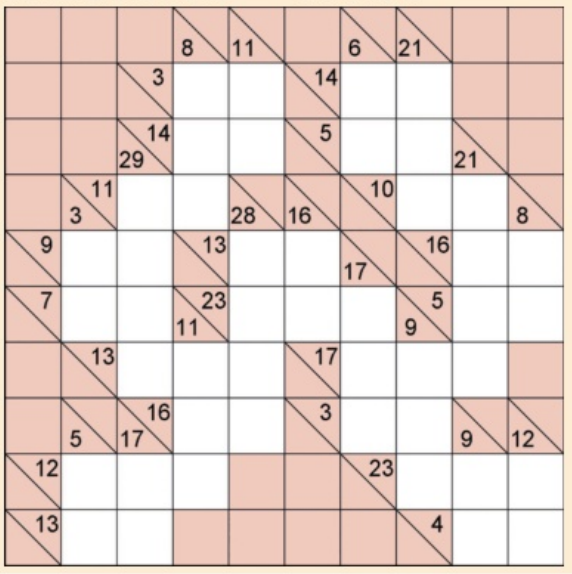
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

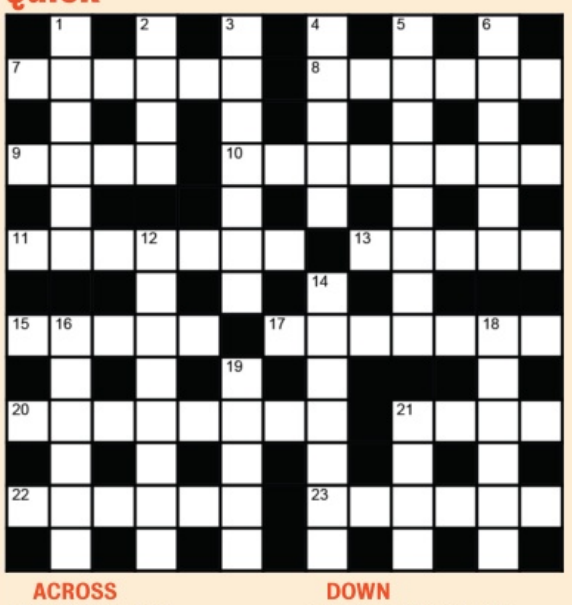


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Environment or surroundings (6)
8 In disagreement or at variance? (2,4)
9 I am _ _ it : I am aware of it? (2,2)
10 Be increasingly successful (informal) (2,6)
11 Takes place (7)
13 Beethoven's famous symphony (5)
15 Dens (5)
17 Eating greedily (7)
20 Oral examination? (4,4)
21 __ and pans : kitchen utensils? (4)
22 Mariner (6)
23 Small refrigerator? (6)

DOWN

1 Capital of Austria (6)
2 Prefix for one thousand (4)
3 Pulling with effort (7)
4 Tourist destination which used to be the capital of the Vijayanagar Empire (5)
5 Gyrating, revolving or turning (8)
6 Most peculiar or strange (6)
12 Movable, not stationary or fixed (8)
14 Producing motion, active (7)
16 Creature (6)
18 Idea, concept (6)
19 Sixty minute periods (5)
21 Look furtively (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: P EQUALS A

MBDPWF PZCGD PBDG'K DGCJQU KC WPRD XCJB IDZZX VJZZ.

Linemaro

I usually don't say this on a first date, but will you marry me?

Mindchow

The surest way to corrupt a youth is to teach him to hold in higher esteem those who think alike than those who think differently

Joke of the day

Why did she sell sea shells on the sea shore when you can just walk down there and pick them up anyway?

Loop

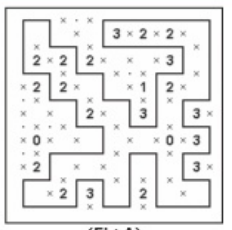
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

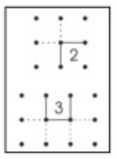
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

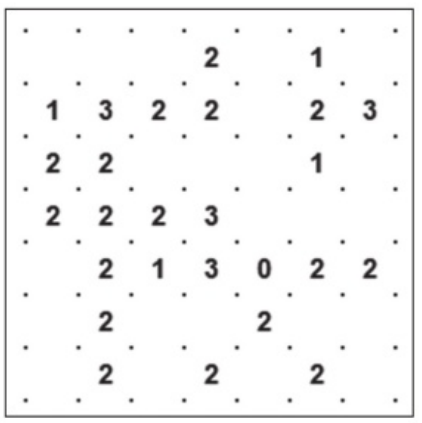
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



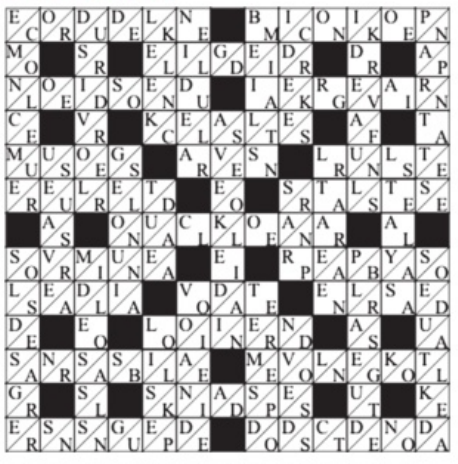
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



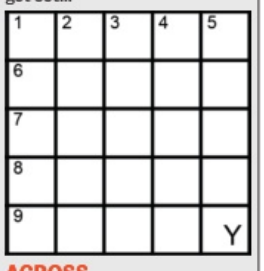
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Us act; 6 I stop; 7 Y seer; 8 An ape; 9 My dud

DOWN

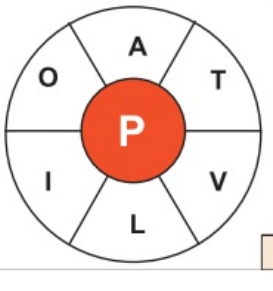
1 Meats; 2 Yo cup; 3 De Pun; 4 Tried; 5 Says a

Mensapuzzle

Which is the odd number out?

462 683 385 198 253 781 594

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; 07 Good; 09 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

9			1		8			3
7		4				8		6
3								5
	8		9		4		1	
		7	5		1	6		
	5		8		2		3	
6								9
5		9				7		8
8			6		5			1

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 5
2 2 3 4

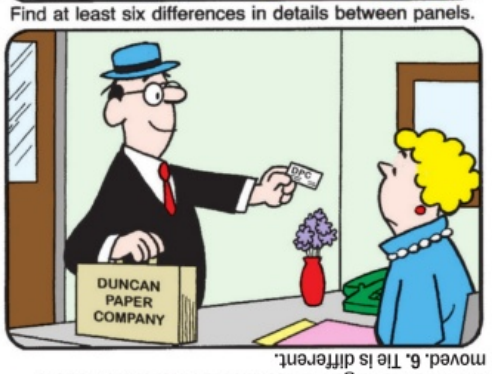
Medium = 14
2 7 9 9

Hard = 22
2 5 6 4

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



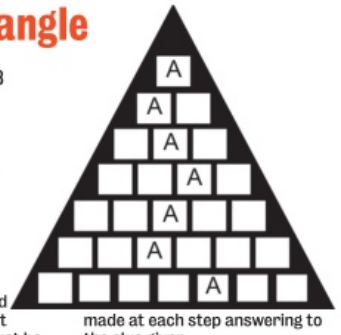
Differences: 1. Arm is higher. 2. Briefcase is larger. 3. Window is larger. 4. Necklace is different. 5. Vase is moved. 6. Tie is different.

Riddler

What expression is represented here?
I hear: "It, It, It, It, ..." You hear: "I_, I_, I_, I_, ..."

Alpha triangle

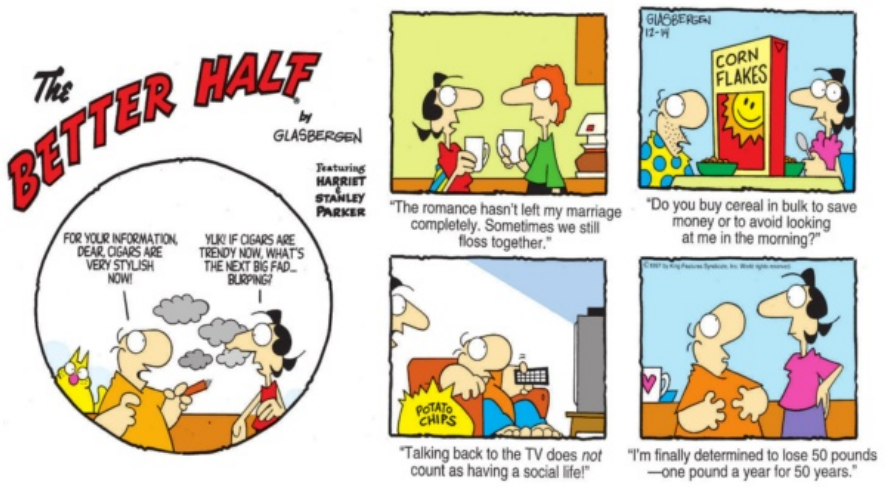
1 Blood gr.
2 Atomic number 18
3 Talent for tones
4 Peruse
5 Curtain
6 Gathered crops
7 Corrupt morally



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
FOR YOUR INFORMATION, DEAR, CIGARS ARE VERY STYLISH NOW!
YUK! IF CIGARS ARE TRENDY NOW, WHAT'S THE NEXT BIG FAD... BURPING?
"The romance hasn't left my marriage completely. Sometimes we still floss together."
GLASBERGEN 12-14
CORN FLAKES
"Do you buy cereal in bulk to save money or to avoid looking at me in the morning?"
POTATO CHIPS
"Talking back to the TV does not count as having a social life!"
"I'm finally determined to lose 50 pounds —one pound a year for 50 years."

BABY BLUES™
BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT
ARE YOU GONNA SQUASH THE SPIDER?
MAYBE WE CAN CATCH IT AND LET IT GO.
REALLY?
YEAH, THIS JUST A HARMLESS DADDY LONGLEGS.
SEE HOW EASY IT IS TO SHOW A LITTLE KINDNESS?
THERE YOU GO, LITTLE SPI-
WHERE'D HE GO?
IS IT ON ME?
GET IT OFF! GET IT OFF! GET IT OFF!
EEEEEEEK!
SLAP! SLAP! SLAP!
SLAP! SLAP! SLAP!
DID YOU RESCUE THE SPIDER?
IF WE DIDN'T, IT WAS A CLEAR CASE OF SELF-DEFENSE.

AN ACCIDENTAL BITE BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER HAS GIVEN TEENAGER PETER PARKER SUPER POWERS, AND TRANSFORMED HIM INTO--
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
STAN LEE
A MURDEROUS MASKED MENACE OR A MODERN-DAY CRUSADER?
PETER PARKER AND ANT-MAN ENTER A CAR RENTAL...
'EVENING! MAY I SEE YOUR LICENSE, PLEASE?
HOPE THE AGENT DOESN'T NOTICE ME PERCHED ON YOUR SHOULDER.
QUEST RENT-A-CAR
OH, GREAT! I JUST REALIZED I'LL LEFT MY BILLFOLD AT HOME!
LET ME PAY FOR THIS, OLD BUDDY!
STAN LEE 3-'91 DAVID BRINKOFF
OH... I DIDN'T SEE YOU THERE BEHIND YOUR FRIEND!
BUT--WE DON'T RENT CARS TO MASKED PEOPLE!
THIS ISN'T A MASK- IT'S A HELMET.
AND MY PICTURE'S RIGHT THERE ON MY LICENSE!
WELCOME TO QUEST RENT-A-CAR, MR. LANG!
I GUESS I'LL BE DOING THE DRIVING.
UNLESS YOU WANT US TO WIND UP IN JAIL INSTEAD OF ELIHAS STARR!
THE SHOWDOWN!

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may feel dullness in your nature, but somehow that may reflect in your way of working. But with the help of the elder's blessings, you are likely to get back to your speed. You are likely to pay extra attention to your kid's health. You will be in a winning position against your enemies and opponents. Investors must be careful when making difficult decisions. Stomach issues may make you upset.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may be happy at work. You are likely to make some important decisions by the end of the day, which will help you in the near future. You may also plan for a short trip. Your subordinates are likely to be cooperative. You may expect some good news in terms of a sibling's success. You are likely to be in winning positions in legal matters as well. Students may be more focused on achieving their targets.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today your communication skills may help you on a professional front. You are likely to be more polite with everyone around you, which may help you speed up your projects. Lovebirds are likely to exchange their views with each other, which may lay the foundation of their relationship.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. A new partnership may give you benefits. Your energy level is likely to be high. Your hard work and enthusiasm may pay off in terms of financial gains. Self-respect may protect you from negative people around you.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may feel dullness and unhappiness. You are advised to avoid harsh conversations with friends and family members. You may also not be able to get proper reciprocation for your hard work. You need to follow your intuition. It is advised to keep your patience while making important decisions.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today new sources of income are likely to be opened. Your past investments may give you a good profit, which will boost your bank balance. You are likely to connect with a social organisation, which will increase your network. Singles may find a soul mate in terms of marriage.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today blessings from elders may make you confident. You can follow your intuition before taking any initiatives that may help you at work. Your intuition may help you gain more in terms of finance. You are likely to visit some religious place with your family members. You must control your arrogance to enjoy your domestic life. Students may expect good results with the help of destiny.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you are blessed by an auspicious moon; it may make you happy, and chronic health-related issues are likely to be resolved now. It is a good time to initiate your postponed projects. Your destiny may be with you in terms of gains in business. You may get some rewards for your hard work. You may expect peaceful religious and work-related travel.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today your moon is negative, you may feel dull, and you may have health issues. You may face losses during this period. It is advised not to invest in risky assets. Your gains are likely to be converted into losses. You should stop investing in worthless objects. You should avoid being involved in controversies; otherwise, it may pull you down negatively.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you are blessed by the moon. Love would be in the air in terms of personal life. Singles may find a suitable match. You may do better in terms of your professional life. Your friends and subordinate staff are likely to support you.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may have confidence, which may reflect on your way of working. You are in a winning position in terms of opponents and enemies. You may have a good focus on your goals. Health issues may be good. In domestic life, try to avoid unnecessary arguments; they may affect your domestic harmony.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
You may be happy due to a blessing from an auspicious planetary combination. You may have some sort of positive energy, which may create prestige among people around you. You may spend your time studying intellectual stuff. You will also plan for higher studies.

KIDZONE

Janya, 10 Years, Vani public school

P Rishika, 13 Years, Indiranagar Cambridge School

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Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
16-5(10-16/2)+(30-27)
16-5(2)+3
16-10+3
= 9

BULL'S EYE
atop, opal, pail, patio, pilot, pivot, PIVOTAL, plait, plot

STRIKE OUT

C	O	D	D	L	E	M	I	N	I	O
O	R	E	I	G	E	R	R	A	T	A
N	O	I	S	E	D	A	E	G	E	A
C	V	K	E	A	T	S	F	T		
U	S	E	S	R	E	S	R	U	S	E
R	U	L	E	D	O	S	A	L	T	S
A	N	U	C	L	E	A	R	A	R	
O	V	I	N	E	I	P	E	P	Y	S
L	E	D	A	V	A	T	E	R	S	E
D	E	L	I	N	E	D	A	A		
A	R	A	B	I	A	M	O	N	G	O
G	L	K	N	A	P	S	U	E		
E	N	S	U	E	D	O	S	T	E	N

FAST FIVE

S	C	U	T	A
T	O	P	I	S
E	Y	E	R	S
A	P	N	E	A
M	U	D	D	Y

RIDDLER
You will never hear the end of it.

QUOTE UNCODE
Dreams alone aren't enough to make your belly full.

QUICK

V	K	L	H	R	O					
S	A	I	L	O	R	I	C	E	B	O	X
M	B	U	T	E	I					
V	I	V	A	V	O	C	E	P	O	T	S
N	T	H	N	O						
L	A	I	R	S	P	I	G	G	I	N	G
O	G	K	N							
H	A	P	P	E	N	S	F	I	F	T	H
N	I	T	S							
O	N	T	O	G	O	P	L	A	C	E	S
E	L	G	M	T	D					
L	E	S	C	P	N					

MENSA PUZZLE
683: In the other numbers add the first and last digits to arrive at the middle digit

SUDOKU

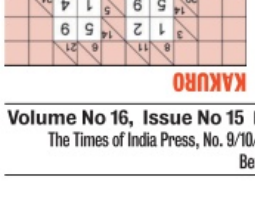
9	6	5	1	2	8	4	7	3
7	1	4	3	5	9	8	2	6
3	2	8	7	4	6	1	9	5
2	8	3	9	6	4	5	1	7
4	9	7	5	3	1	6	8	2
1	5	6	8	7	2	9	3	4
6	3	1	4	8	7	2	5	9
5	4	9	2	1	3	7	6	8
8	7	2	6	9	5	3	4	1

ALPHA TRIANGLE
A, Ar, Ear, Read, Drape, Reaped, Deprave.

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 + 2 + 2 − 3 = 5
Medium
7 + 9 − 9 x 2 = 14
Hard
2 + 5 x 4 − 6 = 22

LOOP

KAKURO



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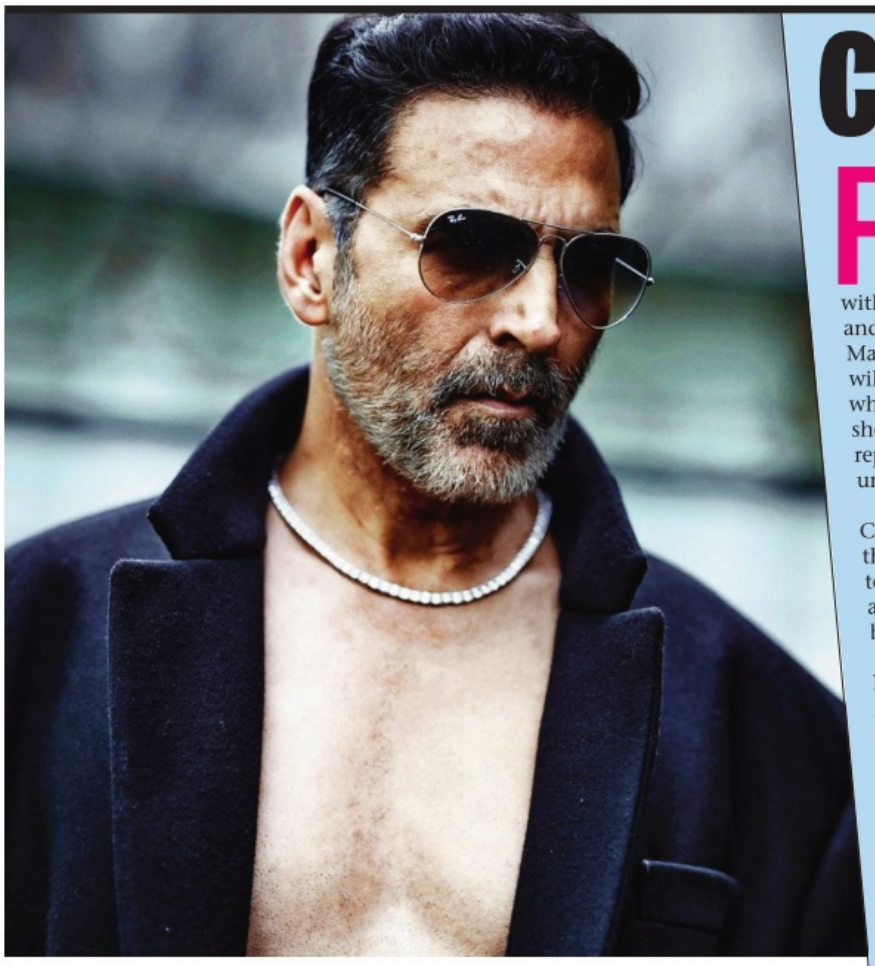
Heartfelt apology— Drew Barrymore has apologised to television and film writers over her decision to resume production on her talk show as Writers Guild of America members remain on strike



Khiladi Kumar

The Khiladi Kumar of Bollywood is on a roll. On the one hand, he is gearing up for the release of his next - 'Mission Raniganj; on the other hand, reports are going around that he will be collaborating one more time with his 'Sooryavanshi' maker Rohit Shetty for an edge-of-the-seat action thriller. It is being said that Mohit Suri will be directing the film, but an official announcement on the same is awaited.

A source told Pinkvilla that the idea of the project has been discussed by Rohit Shetty, Mohit Suri and Akshay Kumar for a while now, and finally, the script has aligned with the vision of the three. It is a thriller action drama featuring Kumar as a never-before-seen character. Further, though other actors who will be a part of the movie have not been disclosed, the source added the film will have a strong cast to support.

Commenting further on the progress of the untitled next, the source added that the narration and paperwork have been done, and now they are finalizing the shooting schedule. The movie will go on the floors in the first quarter of 2024.

Meanwhile, Akshay's 'Mission Raniganj' will be making it to the big screens on October 6. The movie is inspired by the real-life heroic act of the late Shri Jaswant Singh Gill. Akshay also has the 'Soorarai Pottru' adaptation, Ali Abbas Zafar's 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' and 'Khel Khel Mein' in the pipeline.

—ETimes

Cop avatar

Rani Mukerji to take on women-centric issues on a global scale in Mardaani 3

Rani Mukerji's cop avatar in the Mardaani series was hailed by fans, and the actress is now working on the third part. His ideation for Mardaani 3 has been in the works for a while now, and Rani is personally invested in the same.

According to mid-day, Rani has been closely working with writer-director Gopi Puthranas. He is working on the story and screenplay of the third part. He called the shots for Mardaani 2 and is likely to helm this part, too. Mardaani 3 will continue to showcase Rani as Shivani Shivaji Roy, while Jisshu Sengupta reprises as her husband. Extensive shoot schedules at international locations are reportedly being planned as Mardaani 3 tackles a universal issue that women will relate to.

Rani Mukerji's last release was 'Mrs. Chatterjee vs. Norway', wherein she played the role of a mother who took on a country to win back her children. The film received a lot of love from the audience and was a box-office hit too.

Speaking about her films, Rani Mukerji shared, "I made it a point to choose films where the girl is also pivotal to the plot, where the girl is projected with dignity and power. For me, women have always been agents of change. They have been independent, courageous, caring, pursuers of dreams and the best multitasker you can ever find. I wanted to highlight these facets of a woman by choosing characters that echo this belief system of mine. So, if you see films like 'Black', 'Veer Zaara', 'Mardaani' series, 'Yuva', or even my latest film 'Mrs. Chatterjee vs. Norway', the girls I play are central to the plot, the sheroes people have adored and accepted for being who they are." —ETimes

New entry

Rumours were doing the rounds that actress Pashmina Roshan has bagged her second movie, and that too opposite 'Student of the Year 2' star Tiger Shroff. And now a report suggests the movie is titled 'Hero No. 1'. Buzz about this entertainer is at its peak, revealing that Tiger will have not one but two female leads. 'Kedarnath' star Sara Ali Khan will also be seen in the project.

According to a source quoted by Hindustan Times, this project will feature Sara Ali Khan and Pashmina Roshan opposite Tiger Shroff, who will be seen as the primary love interest. Further, it is said to be an action-drama with a dash of science. Also, as soon as the title 'Hero No 1' rang in our ears, it either hinted at a remake or a sequel to the classic Govinda comedy. However, reports say it is an original new script and has nothing to do with the Govinda starrer.

Directed by Jagan Shakti, the man who helmed 'Mission Mangal,' the movie is scheduled to go on the floors in London in January 2024. Tiger has shot his action sequence, and next year, he will be joined by Sara and Pashmina. After 'Ganpath' and 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan', Hero No. 1 will be their final collaboration. —ETimes

Murder mystery

In Parimala D'Souza, the story unfolds as Lakshmi, aka Lucky, a cook at the D'Souza residence, stumbles upon a shocking discovery – Parimala D'Souza's lifeless body in a bathtub. What seems like a suicide turns sinister when the post-mortem report reveals murder. Police Inspector Vijayalakshmi, portrayed by Komala Banavase, takes charge of the investigation, leading her to question Vijay and, subsequently, his mother and uncle. As the mystery deepens, Assistant Sub Inspector Vinod Kumar (Vinod Sheshadri) joins the team under the directives of Police Commissioner Suryakanth (Srinivas Prabhu).

At this juncture, the director introduces Papanna, aka Cycle Papa, the son of Bhagyamma (Bhaya), who becomes a crucial witness to the strangulation of Parimala D'Souza. The movie unravels the secrets and suspense surrounding this murder.

While the film holds promise, it is marred by the predominance of inexperienced actors. This does not discredit newcomers but underscores the need for a seasoned ensemble cast. Additionally, the film needs more cinematic richness, lacking the visual splendour that often enhances storytelling. The character of the watchman, preoccupied with cricket on his tablet, also needs to be more convincing.

Parimala D'Souza may find an audience among those seeking entertainment in their leisure time and wish to support emerging talent in the film industry.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

PARIMALA D'SOUZA

2.0 RATING ★★☆☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Giridhar H T
- **ACTORS** Bhavya, Srinivas Prabhu, Komala Banavase, Vinod Sheshadri, Shankanada Anjanappa
- **Duration** 132 minutes
- **Certification** U/A